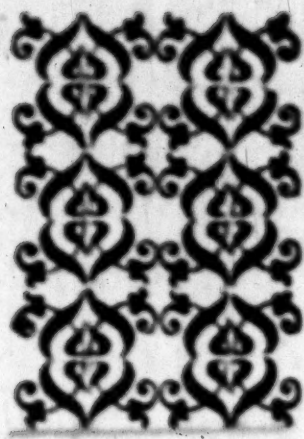
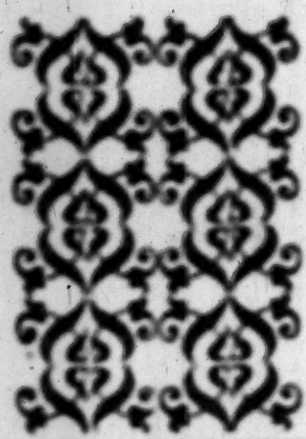


# By the Queene.

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## *A Proclamation against the common vse of Dagges, Handgunnes, Harquebuzes, Calliuers, and Cotes of Defence.*



He Queenes Maiestie, being informed credibly from sundrie partes of the Realme, that her former commaundements, contained in her Proclamations heretofore published for the prohibiting of the common carying of Dagges, Pistolles, and such other short pieces of shot according to the Actes of Parliament remaining of force, haue not bene by such publike Officers in Shires, Townes, and other publike places duely executed, as by the saide proclamations was ordered, but haue in a generalitie bene neglected, and so the disorder growne so great in common carying of Dagges, Pistolles, and such like, not onely in Cities and Townes, and in all partes of the Realme in common high waies, whereby her Maiesties good quyet people, desirous to liue in peaceable maner, are in feare and daunger of their liues to trauele abroade for their necessarie businesse, by meanes of the multitude of the euil disposed, who contrary to the Lawes and her Maiesties proclamations do so commonly cary such offensive weapons, being in tyme of peace onely meete for theues, robbers & murderers: Whereupon her Maiestie by the aduice of her Counsell, and vpon the general complaint made of the multitude of her peaceable people, doeth giue streight charge to all maner officers, to whom the execution of the former proclamations did apperteyne, that immediatly vpon the publication hereof, they do with speede take order how the contents of the foresaid proclamations may be speedily put in due execution. And to that end her Maiestie chargeth all Maiors, Shiriues, Bailiffes, and other head Officers of Cities and townes corporate, and all Iustices of Peace within all Counties and other places hauing any speciall liberties, that they do assemble them selues in some accustomed places, and there to set downe certaine order, and appoynt speciall ministers, not onely to enquire of the default of the execution of the foresaide Proclamations, but also to proceede duely to the execution thereof.

And furthermore, where her Maiestie vnderstandeth that besides the enormities growne by lacke of execution of the sayd Proclamations against the common vsage of Dagges and Pistolles, there is an other greater disorder growne of common carying abroade both in Townes and fields, of great Pieces, as Harquebuzes, Calliuers and such like, vnder colour of learning or exercising to shoote therein, to the seruice at Musters appoynted in sundrie Counties for the common seruice of the Realme, (a matter to be in good sorte fauoured, but not to be misused) by which meanes, through the generall carying of them in places not appoynted for such musters, and by the frequent shooting with them in and neere Cities, Townes corporate, or the Suburbes thereof where great multitude of people do liue, reside, and trauaile by and do wone for their necessarie businesse, many harmes do ensue, and occasions like to encrease of great danger, by such libertie permitted for the vse of suche offensive weapons in places not conuenient. For these considerations, and for the consequences of sundrie mischies that may ensue, her Maiestie by like aduice of her Counsell, doth commaunde and charge all maner her subiects of what estate so euer they be, from henceforth to forbear fro shooting in any maner of Handgunnes, Harquebuzes, Calliuers, or such like, of what name so euer they be,



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either charged with Bullet or without, in any place, but onely at and in the places that are or shall be appointed for common Mustres, by the direction of the Commissioners for generall Mustres, or els at and in such places as are, or shall be appointed to be meete places, either within great Cities or the Suburbes of the same, or in places farre of from Townes of habitation, for the exercise of Shooting in such pieces as is aforesayde, and for the learning to shoote in the same places. And that no such Piece be charged with Shot or Powder, but at, or in the same place so limited for Mustres, or for exercise of Shooting. And if any persons being Artificers, makers of such Pieces in any place, shall haue cause to trie such Pieces, either for the satisfaction of them selues, or of any that shall desire to buy the same, the triall thereof shall also be at the sayde places so limited, and at none other. And if any person shall hereafter attempt the contrary, to the breache of these her Highnesses commaundementes, that the same shalbe committed to prison, by any Officer hauing charge to see the keeping of the Peace, or being any principall or chiefe Officer within any of the sayde Cities or Townes corporate, there to remaine by the space of two Monethes at the least. And the Piece and Shot so misused, to be sealed and kept, and sent to any of her Maiesties Officers of Ordinance or Castels where any Ordinance is kept, that shalbe next to the same place, there to remaine. And vpon any seconde Offence to be committed to close Prison, and there to remaine vntill the same shalbe expressely bailed by commaundement of her Maiestie, or of sixe of her priuie Counsell.

Furthermore, her Maiestie in like sort commaundeth, that no maner of Person shall vse any Shooting in any such small Pieces, within two myles of any house where her Maiestie shall reside, during the time of her Maiesties residing, vpon like paine as before is expressed. And to that ende her Maiestie chargeth her Marschal of her house, to be carefull by him selfe and his Ministers, to see the due obseruation thereof. And if he shall finde any to offende therein, not onely to commit the same to prison, but also to aduertise her Maiestie, or her priuie Counsell thereof, that some furdre extraordinarie punishment may be extended vpon such audacious persons, as shall aduenture to offend so neere to the place, where her Maiesties person shalbe.

And where as diuers of late yeres haue vsed to weare priuie Cotes, and Doublets of defence, therby intending to quarrell, and make frayes vpon other vnarmed, and presume audaciously to apparell them selues with the said priuie Armour, not onely in Cities, Townes, and publike assemblie, but within her Maiesties Court wheresoeuer, to the great offence & contempt of her Highnes, and of her Lawes, and to the hurt of diuers her Maiesties good subiects. Therfore her Maiestie doth expressely prohibite & forbid all and euery of her subiects whatsoeuer, the wearing of any such Priuie or secret kinde of Cote, or Doublet of Defence. And further her Maiesties expresse pleasure is, that all her Iustices of peace, Maiors, Sheriffes, Bailiffes, Constables, and other her Maiesties Officers whatsoeuer, shall and may lawfully apprehend and arrest all such persons, as shall offend contrary to the Tenour of this Proclamation in that behalfe. And the said persons so apprehended, shall, and may lawfully commit to the next prison and gaole, where they shalbe so arrested, there to remaine without baile or mainprise, vntill there shalbe direction giuen from her Maiesties priuie Counsel. And the same priuie Cotes or Doublets to be taken from them, and sent to the Sheriffe of the shire for the time being, to be by him kept vntill her Maiestie shall otherwise dispose of the same. And the partie so offending to be fined at her Highnesse will and pleasure.

Finally, also her Maiestie farther chargeth all maner Officers in Cities, Townes and other places, to make searche for all maner small Dagges, called pocket Dagges, as well in any mans house to be suspected for the same, as in the Shoppes and Houses of Artificers that do vse to make the same: And all them shall lease and take into their custodie, deliuering a Bil of their handes, testifying the receipt thereof, to the intent the owners may haue such recompence for the same, as hereafter vpon Certificate to her Maiesties Priuie Counsel, or to the Presidents and Counsellors in Wales and in the North partes, shalbe thought requisite. And herewith her Maiestie commaundeth, that no maner of person shall hereafter either make or amende, or shall bring into this Realme any such Dagges, commonly called pocket Dagges, or such like, vpon paine of imprisonment, as next aboue is expressed. And wheresoeuer there are any persons that haue made any small Shot, the same shalbe bounde in reasonable summes to her Maiesties vse, by the discretion of the principall Officers of the Towne, not to make nor put to Sale, or otherwise to vtter any such small Pieces as are commonly called pocket Dagges, or that may be hid in any Pocket, or like place about a mans body, to be hid or caried couertly.

And for execution of all the contentes of this Proclamation, her Maiestie chargeth all her Officers, that either in Liberties or without, haue any authoritie to enquire of the breache of her Maiesties peace, to assemble them selues presently, and so monethly betwene this and Christmas next. And there by a Iurie of sufficient persons to be sworne, or by other ministers to be by them deputed, to enquire of the obseruation of all the pointes herein contained.

Given at our Manour of Greenwich, the xxvi. day of July in the xxi. yere of our reigne.

God saue the Queene.

Imprinted in London at Bacon house by Christopher Barker,

Printer to the Queenes Maiestie.

Anno 1579.